

vacuum in the vacuum drum 1202. Typical fibrous and particulate materials for absorbent cores 1006 include fluff pulp and superabsorbent polymer, respectively, as are discussed in more detail in U.S. Patents 6,068,620, 5,931,825 and 5,685,874, which have been incorporated by reference herein. A continuous supply of core material 1206 emerges from the core forming chamber 1204, at which point further processing may occur to prepare the continuous core supply for integration into an absorbent garment. Such core forming devices are well known in the art, and the description of the use of embodiments of the present invention with this type of core forming devices shall not be understood to limit the present invention.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is provided prior to any office action and is filed within three months of the original filing date, as such, entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested. This preliminary amendment merely corrects an obvious typographical error in the originally-filed specification, and does not add new matter.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fees are due in connection with filing this Preliminary Amendment. However, in the event it is determined that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

*At Page 23, lines 4 - 18:*

Embodiments of the present invention may be adapted to operate in different positions on an absorbent garment manufacturing line. For example, as shown in Figure 12, a number of air applicators may be used during the formation of absorbent cores 1016. In the embodiment of Figure 12, a tissue supply 1200 is conveyed by a vacuum drum 1202 into a core forming chamber 1204, in which particulate and fibrous material that form the absorbent cores 1006 are pulled onto the tissue supply 1200 by a vacuum in the vacuum drum 1202. [A] T[t]ypical fibrous and particulate materials for absorbent cores 1006 include fluff pulp and superabsorbent polymer, respectively, as are discussed in more detail in U.S. Patents 6,068,620, 5,931,825 and 5,685,874, which have been incorporated by reference herein. A continuous supply of core material 1206 emerges from the core forming chamber 1204, at which point further processing may occur to prepare the continuous core supply for integration into an absorbent garment. Such core forming devices are well known in the art, and the description of the use of embodiments of the present invention with this type of core forming devices shall not be understood to limit the present invention.